

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please delete page 76 in its entirety and substitute therefore as follows:

--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A modular copying system including combinations of printer, scanner, and system controller modules formed as independent frames. The scanner module includes devices for image reading, first data I/O and first synchronizing signal generation; the printer module includes devices for image forming, second data I/O and second synchronizing signal generation; and the system control module includes devices for third data I/O and system control. The modules are added or removed according to user requirements and the system is capable of accommodating up to seven modules. The modules are stacked in a vertical direction and arranging devices ensure proper module alignment. Once the modules are aligned and assembled in the system, communications between each module is accomplished via light wave, electric wave, or sonic wave transmission and reception. As a result, system interconnection is reduced, system noise is reduced and various connecting cables are eliminated. In addition, the system can be connected to a public ISDN line for transmitting detected system faults to the factory and for receiving fault diagnosis information which is displayed to a user via a display. Further, the system is capable of performing various image processing functions, such as processing with a space